

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of WILSON, Paul K.

Art Unit: 3617

For: Drive System for Amphibious
Equipment

Examiner: Sherman D. Basinger

Application No.: 10/618,927

Attorney Docket No.: 816

Filed: July 14, 2003

Date: December 27, 2004

Honorable Commissioner of Patents

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 06/25/2003

Applicant submits this response to the Examiner's Office Action, which was mailed on June 25, 2004.

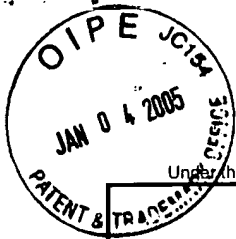
I. AMENDMENTS

1. Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 7, replace the paragraph beginning with the words "Endless chains 14", as follows:

Endless chains 14 are driven via track sprockets 18 welded or bolted onto track axle 20, also called a shaft. Track axle 20 is driven by an endless chain (not shown) connected to track-axle sprocket 24, which is preferably key set onto track axle 20. The endless chain is connected to motor-drive sprocket 26, also called a final drive sprocket, which is connected, preferably bolted, to final drive 28 of a prime mover, preferably an engine. Final drive 28 can be a hydraulic motor having a stationary part attached to a pontoon 2. Track-axle sprocket 24 can be easily removed and replaced in the field. Even if the track-drive sprocket 24 is fused to track axle 20 because of corrosion, a portable hydraulic power pack can be used in the field to remove the track-drive sprocket from the track axle with the necessity for removing a bearing or pillow block.

On page 8, immediately before the paragraph beginning with the words "For operation on land," please add the following paragraph:



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